

Annual Report

2012



Lincoln Land Conservation Trust and Rural Land Foundation Annual Report



Inside:

Publications	2
2012 Annual Meeting	2
Stewardship: Monitoring	2
Stewardship: Land Management	3
Education: Lincoln Schools	3
Education: Walks and Talks	3
Mall at Lincoln Station: Donelan's	4
LLCT Financials	4

Who We Are—

The Lincoln Land Conservation Trust (LLCT), founded in 1957, is one of the oldest private land trusts in the country. The LLCT is dedicated to “maintaining the rural character of the Town for the benefit of the inhabitants of Lincoln.” Now well into its sixth decade of conservation work, the LLCT continues to fulfill its mission thanks to the dedicated efforts of its trustees, members, donors, friends, and other supporting organizations in Lincoln and beyond. Thank you!

The Rural Land Foundation (RLF) is a sister organization of the Lincoln Land Conservation Trust. It works in concert with the LLCT and the Town’s Conservation Commission to protect undeveloped land and preserve Lincoln’s rural character. Since its founding in 1965, the RLF has applied creative solutions to preserve natural resources by acquiring lands for conservation purposes and helping private landowners place portions of their properties under conservation restrictions.

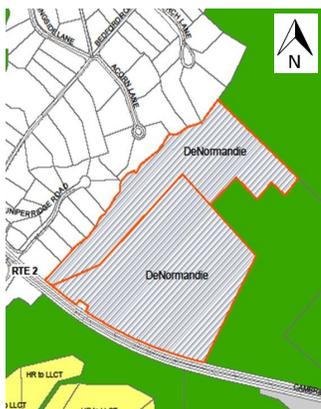
Both organizations are run by a non-profit board of trustees who are all Lincoln residents. The board is supported by two staff people: a full-time executive director, Geoff McGean, and a part-time outreach coordinator, Anna Wilkins.

Land Acquisition

DeNormandie Land, Route 2: Our latest conservation initiative permanently protected more than 53 acres of forested land along Route 2. The land was formerly owned by the DeNormandie Family and has long been of conservation interest to the Town. The newly conserved land will be managed for conservation and watershed protection purposes and is the result of a three-year collaborative effort between the City of Cambridge Water Department, the Town of Lincoln, Lincoln’s conservation organizations (RLF, LLCT and the Conservation Commission) and the DeNormandie Family. Thanks to the generosity of these groups, fundraising effort from the surrounding neighborhoods and Lincoln residents, including Community Preservation Committee support, more than \$1.9 million was raised to purchase this land and place it in permanent conservation.

The project completes a vast area of more than 250 acres of protected lands along the Route 2 corridor, from Bedford Road to Mill Street and up to Route 2A. The land contains upland woods, a steep bedrock hillside and a wooded valley where head waters for Stony Brook are formed. Native plant species found on the property include cardinal flower, jewelweed, skunk cabbage and winterberry. The uplands and wetlands are habitat for a myriad of wild-life including scarlet tanagers, wood thrush, beaver, fox and fisher.

Hoch Property, Farrar Road: Thanks to the fundraising efforts of the Farrar Road neighborhood, an important parcel of land was restricted from potential institutional development and an important trail easement from Farrar Road into the Farrar

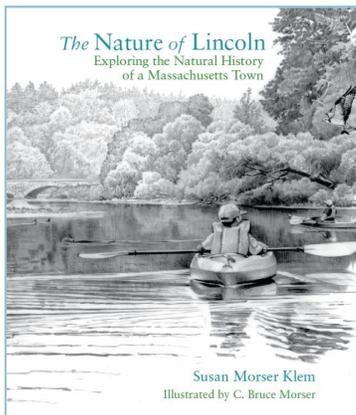


DeNormandie Route 2 Land

Special Thanks to the Following 2012 Volunteers:

Lynne Smith
Selina Rossiter
Lindsay Clemens
Alex MacLean
James DeNormadie
Jason Felsch
Liz Lieblich
Norman Levey
Robin Wilkerson
Viny Durso
Matt Burne
The Flint Family
Peter Von Mertens
Jillian Valpey
The Groves
Our Calendar Photographers

And many, many others who
help us on the land and with
our mission.



Land Acquisition, Cont.

Pond trail network was secured. Working with the Farrar Road neighborhood, the RLF and LLCT found a conservation-minded buyer to purchase an undeveloped lot adjacent to a new institutional development (The Teddy Bear Club). The buyer agreed to a house size restriction, a prohibition against future institutional use and a trail easement from Farrar Road into the Farrar Pond trail network. The neighborhood contributed significant funds to help the conservation buyer purchase the property.

Hollingsworth Property, Twin Pond Lane: Working with the Town, the Friends of Modern Architecture (FOMA) and a preservation-minded buyer, we accepted a 6-acre conservation restriction and public trail easement on the former Hollingsworth land off of Twin Pond Lane. The CR ensures the permanent protection of much of the land and preservation of an historically significant modernist house on the property.

Publications

In the fall we published *The Nature of Lincoln* written by LLCT board member, Sue Klem. The book, beautifully illustrated by Sue's brother Bruce Morser, is a compilation of many of Sue's wildlife columns written for the *Lincoln Journal* between 1995 and 2007. A book launch party in November generated a large turnout and started brisk sales of the book. The wildlife column for the *Lincoln Journal* continues to be written by Gwyn Loud once a month.

In addition to the launch of *The Nature of Lincoln* book, the LLCT and RLF published the second annual *Lincoln Open Spaces Calendar*. It featured 27 different photographs from local photographers of all ages capturing the various aspects of Lincoln's wonderful open spaces, from farming landscapes to close up wildlife shots. The organizations are actively seeking photographs for their 2014 Open Spaces Calendar.

The LLCT's *A Guide to Conservation Land in Lincoln*, is still available and continues to be a wonderful resource to enhance exploration of Lincoln's conservation lands. We also began work on an updated trail map, which will be published in 2013.

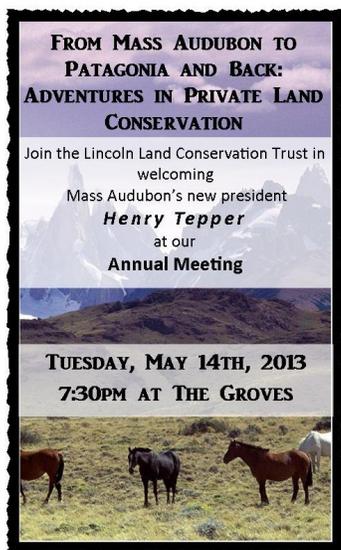
Annual Meeting

At the LLCT's 2012 Annual Meeting held in May at The Groves, our guest speaker Andy Falender, former president of the Appalachian Mountain Club, gave an inspiring talk about the Bay Circuit Trail. At the meeting the LLCT also honored two long-standing trustees, Jim Fleming and Dwight Gertz, who stepped down from the board. Both trustees admirably chaired the organization for many years and will be greatly missed. The LLCT welcomed new trustees, Rachel Munn and Andy Falender.

Stewardship

Monitoring

During 2012, the LLCT's Anna Wilkins and the Conservation Commission's Dave McKinnon walked the property bounds of more than 2,200 acres of Lincoln's conserved land, documenting current conditions. These monitoring reports are reviewed against the baseline information to assess any changes to the land and/or compliance with the terms



Monitoring, Cont.

of a conservation restriction (CR) or conservation deed. The “baseline studies” and supplemental “monitoring reports” are available for review at the Town of Lincoln conservation offices. Throughout 2012, the LLCT remained a vigilant protector of the land for which we are responsible. Occasionally this has called for simply advising or reminding landowners of their responsibilities with respect to protected land they own or abut. In other, more severe instances, the LLCT has resorted to appropriate formal action to enforce the terms of a CR or to protect land owned by the Trust.

Land Management

Stewardship also involves managing trails, stone walls, fields, field edges and invasive plants. Thanks to the work of two summer land management interns (for 2012, Cameron Shorb and Adam Gentile) and the tireless efforts of long-time LLCT president Buzz Constable, the Land Trust properties are carefully maintained. The Trust also relies heavily on the volunteer efforts of many neighborhoods. We continue to assist with invasive plant removal and field-edge clearing projects with the Farrar Pond Condo Association. In 2012, the LLCT once again supported the Conservation Commission’s highly successful town-wide garlic mustard pull.

Education

Lincoln Schools

Our educational outreach this year included continuing programs as well as new projects. We presented our annual grant to the Lincoln Public Schools, which provides funding to hire Drumlin Farm teachers/naturalists who work with students and teachers to expand outdoor environmental learning. These outdoor activities connect the existing science curriculum to nature. In 2012, the grant supported grades one and five, and for the first time, grade seven. Our grant from the Warren Flint, Jr. Memorial Fund allowed Lincoln’s third graders to visit Matlock Farm (the Flint family farm) where they learned about local history, farming methods, and soils. Thanks to a grant to the LLCT from the Lincoln Cultural Council, we were able to bring in Clare Walker Leslie, a well-known artist and naturalist, to lead a nature-journaling workshop for all fourth-graders.

Walks, Talks and Events

LLCT offered several nature walks during the year on such topics as vernal pools, spring and fall birding, and the local impact of glaciers.

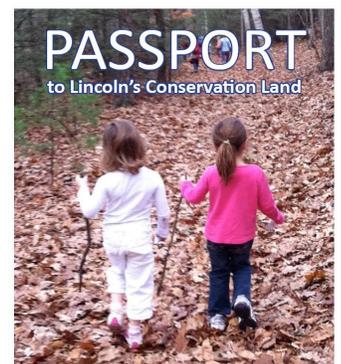
A sub-committee, chaired by Selina Rossiter, worked on a revised edition of our children’s *Passport to Lincoln Conservation Land*. The new edition, now available at the children’s desk at the Lincoln Public Library, supports our goal to get families out on the trails and learning more about natural history. We showed several films over the year, starting with a screening of *Mother Nature’s Child* at a PTA meeting. In November we began our new environmental film series by showing *A Sense of Wonder*, a film about Rachel Carson and the publication, fifty years ago, of her book, *Silent Spring*. In March naturalist Mark Fraser gave an inspiring multi-media presentation on coywolves, fisher, black bear and moose. Mark’s message of living alongside and appreciating these large fascinating mammals resonated with the multi-generational crowd gathered at Bemis Hall.



Cameron Shorb re-building a stream crossing.



Judith Broggi, historic interpreter from Minute Man National Historical Park, in a classroom session prior to the third-grade field trip to Flint’s farm



Name: _____

New Passport

The Mall at Lincoln Station

In 1972, RLF acquired 71 acres of the Codman estate. This project created affordable housing ("Lincoln Woods", in partnership with the Lincoln Foundation), established significant conservation and recreation space (55 acres) and established a commercial center under local control (Lincoln Station). Today the proceeds from the commercial operation help fund RLF's efforts to protect Lincoln's rural character. It continues to be expertly managed by Bill Jackson and Carol Kendrick from William Jackson Associates.

Donelan's

In the late spring of 2012, the RLF was pleased to announce an agreement to have Donelan's return to their location at Lincoln Station. A partial collapse of the roof in February 2011 caused the store to close and left Lincoln residents without a local grocery option. Upon the re-opening in June 2012, both entities thanked the residents of Lincoln and other Donelan's customers for their patience and support during the settlement discussions and repair work.



Donelan's Supermarket at Lincoln Station

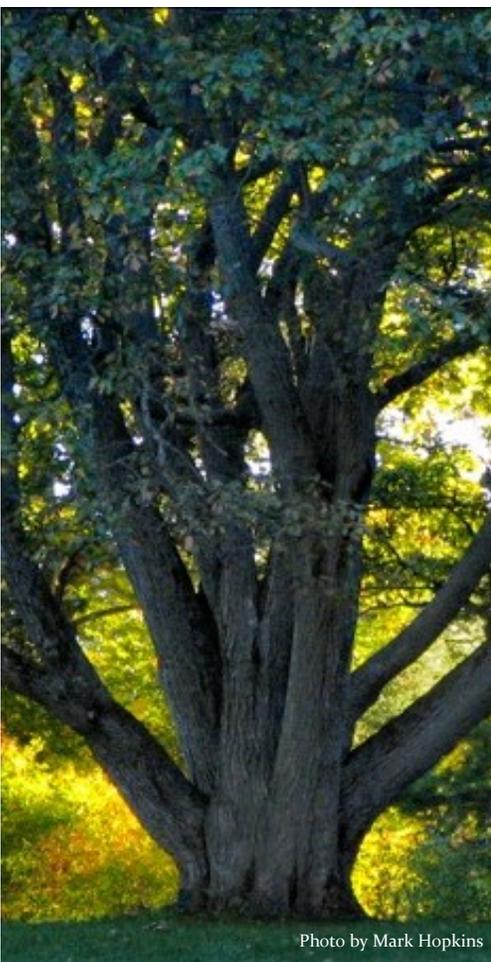


Photo by Mark Hopkins

2012 LLCT Financial Summary

2012 Receipts

Direct Public Support (Membership and Donations)	\$53,429
Sale of Maps and Books	16,388
Investment Income	11,022
Grants	6,295
Other Income	898

Total Receipts **\$88,032**

2012 Expenses

Stewardship	\$25,834
Education	9,143
Membership and Outreach	14,634
Acquisition	2,552
Administration	8,914
Publications	21,532

Total Expenses **\$82,609**

Your membership and donations make our work possible.

Lincoln Land Conservation Trust and Rural Land Foundation Trustees

- Susan Allen, Vice-Chair
- Gary Anderson
- Kenneth E. Bassett
- William G. Constable, President
- Daniel England
- Andy Falender
- James Henderson
- Weston Howland III, Treasurer
- Susan M. Klem
- Gwyneth Loud
- Ellen B. Meadors, Vice-Treasurer
- Rachel Munn
- Paul Shorb, Secretary
- Nancy Soulette
- Andrew Stevenson
- Susan Welsh, Chair**
- Ellen Withrow

We're on the web!

www.lincolnconservation.org



RLF Financial Highlight

The RLF was pleased to raise more than **\$325,000** in donations from Lincoln residents to support the acquisition of the DeNormandie Route 2 project and the Farrar Road property. Thank you to all who participated!

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